GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1811
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2016
Use of Plastic Products
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Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to frame any stringent laws on plastic waste and use of plastic products harming the environment and is seriously considering to make the cities plastic free;
(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps being taken in this regard; and
(c) whether any eco-friendly alternative for plastic products has been identified and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE
(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) & (b) The Ministry has undertaken a comprehensive review of Plastic Waste (Management and Handling) Rules, 2011 for effective and environmentally sound disposal of plastic waste with specific focus on waste minimization, source segregation, recycling etc,. The draft Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2015 aim to increase minimum thickness of plastic carry bags from 40 to 50 microns, stipulate minimum thickness of 50 micron for plastic sheets, to make producers and generators responsible to put in place collection systems for plastic waste by involving Producers/ Brand owners through Extended Producers Responsibility; to introduce collection of plastic waste management fee through pre-registration of the producers and importers of plastic carry bags / multilayered packaging and vendors; to strengthen the role of the local governments, industrial units and others in effective management of plastic waste.
(c) Plastic has multiple uses. The issue is of proper plastic waste management. An eco-friendly product which is a complete substitute of the plastic in all the uses has not been found till date.
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